

# Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC)

Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

Virginia Emergency Response Team (VERT)

## PATRICK COUNTY WILDFIRE

### SITUATION REPORT # 1

2330 Hours April 15, 2006

*The next Situation Report will be 16 April 2006 at 1500 hours.*

#### SUMMARY

Patrick County and Virginia Department of Forestry resources are fighting a wildfire on Bull Mountain that began on 14 April and has burned over 300 acres and is threatening 70 homes.

#### EXECUTIVE ACTION

- EOC Activation:** The Virginia VEOC is at Increased Readiness condition.
- State of Emergency:** On April 15, 2006, Governor Timothy M. Kaine declared a state of emergency to exist for Patrick County to assist in responding to this wildfire. Governor Kaine directed appropriate assistance be rendered by agencies of the state government to respond to assist in Patrick County to alleviate adverse conditions created by the wildfire.
- Federal Declaration:** Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region 3, advised that they received approval for a Fire Management Assistance Grant. Declaration number 2637.
- Protective Actions:** Local Emergency Declared: Patrick County declared a local emergency on April 15, 2006.

#### WEATHER

- Forecast:** Patrick County: **Saturday Night 15 April** – Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Low temperatures in the upper 50s with Northwest winds 10 to 15 MPH. 20 percent chance of rain. **Sunday 16 April** – NWS Blacksburg has issued a Special Weather Statement indicating that the fire danger will remain high across Southside Virginia and the Northwest Piedmont. Partly cloudy in the morning and then becoming partly cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms later in the day. High temperatures in the lower 80s with Northwest winds around 10 MPH becoming South in the afternoon. 50 percent chance of rain. **Sunday Night** – Partly cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms. Low temperatures in the mid 50s with Southwest winds 10 to 15 MPH becoming North after Midnight. 50 percent chance of rain. **Monday 17 April** – Chance of thunderstorms in the morning, showers likely. High temperatures in the upper 50s with East winds 10 to 15 MPH. 70 percent chance of rain.

#### OPERATIONS SECTION

- Local Liaison:** VDEM Local Support Services Division Region Six Coordinator is available as needed.

#### **EMERGENCY SERVICES BRANCH**

- ESF 4 – Firefighting:** Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF)
- The VDOF has an Incident Management Team, 26 personnel, three bulldozers and two helicopters assisting with fire suppression. The Incident Management Team reports 170 firefighters assisting with fire suppression. VDOF has requested a Federal Incident Management Team and two (2) Federal Hot Shot teams that are expected to arrive on 16 April. VDOF preparing and will submit FEMA Form 90-58.

**ESF 13 - Public Safety & Security:**

Virginia Department of Military Affairs/National Guard (VDMA/VNG)

Governor Kaine authorized mobilization of 46 National Guard soldiers to assist Patrick County and VDOF with fire suppression activities and evacuation. 2 – 20 soldier teams will be deployed to assist as needed, supported by three truck drivers and three support soldiers at the Fort Pickett Joint Operations Center.

**INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT BRANCH**

**ESF 1 – Transportation:**

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

VDOT is assisting with road closures as requested by the Incident Management Team and the VDOT Residency Shop in Stuart, Virginia is being utilized as the Incident Command Post.

**LOGISTICS SECTION**

**ESF 7 – Resource Support:**

Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

The VEOC is coordinating requests for assistance from the locality and state agencies.

**LOCAL ACTIVITIES**

Patrick County has evacuated 40 homes and advised 30 other homes to standby for possible evacuation. A shelter has been opened at the Smith River Rescue Squad Building. Patrick County reports those evacuated are staying with relatives and no one is currently staying at the shelter. Patrick County has utilized mutual aid to request firefighting assistance from neighboring Virginia and North Carolina localities.

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